

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CIUDAD 00142 080822Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 L-03 EB-07 DHA-02

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R 071525Z MAY 76

FM AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 684

UNCLAS CIUDAD JUAREZ 0142

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS, MX

SUBJ: LAND TENANCY ISSUES IN CHIHUAHUA

REF: CD JUAREZ 80

1. AFTER SEVERAL UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS ON THE PART OF STATE OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE GOVERNOR, TO PERSUADE THE EJIDATARIOS TO VACATE THE LANDS THEY OCCUPIED IN NUEVO CASAS GRANDES, CHIHUAHUA, A CONTINGENT OF ARMED TROOPS FROM THE FIFTH MILITARY ZONE AND LOCAL POLICE FORCES ENTERED THE RANCHES "EL ALAMITO" AND "LA MORITA" ON MAY 3 WITH AN EVICTION ORDER AND ORDERED THEM TO LEAVE. THEIR DEPARTURE TOOK PLACE WITHOUT INCIDENT.
2. REY WHETTEN, OWNER OF "EL ALAMITO" REPORTED THAT STATE AUTHORITIES ARE HOLDING THE CATTLE WHICH THE EJIDATARIOS BROUGHT TO THE RANCHES THEY OCCUPIED AS A GUARANTEE FOR PAYMENT OR OTHER FORM OF SETTLEMENT FOR DAMAGES DONE TO RANCHES DURING THEIR OCCUPATION. IT IS WHETTEN'S OPINION THAT SOLDIERS WOULD HAVE USED FORCE IF NECESSARY TO TO EVICT EJIDATARIOS FROM RANCHES THEY OCCUPIED. STRONG SHOW OF FORCE USED IN THIS INSTANCE MAY REFLECT CURRENT GOM POLICY REGARDING LAND INVASIONS.
3. PRI PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE LOPEZ PORTILLO VISITED CHIHUAHUA

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PAGE 02 CIUDAD 00142 080822Z

MAY 6 TO PRESIDE OVER A MEETING OF CATTLE PRODUCERS (REUNION

NACIONAL DE LA GANADERIA DE CARNE) THROUGHOUT MEXICO TO DISCUSS
INTER ALIA LAND TENANCY ISSUES. POSSIBLY, ACTION TAKEN MAY 3
TO EVICT EJIDATARIOS FROM RANCHES THEY OCCUPIED WAS RESPONSE
TO DEMANDS OF CATTLEMEN (IN ANTICIPATION OF MAY 6 MEETING)
THAT PROMPT SOLUTION BE FOUND TO PROBLEM OF LAND INVASIONS.
SHAPIRO

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